

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 11 and 21-24 are currently amended. No new matter is introduced.

A Request for Continued Examination is filed concurrently herewith.

The Examiner objected to the punctuation of claims 1, 11, 21 and 23. The Examiner's objections are respectfully traversed. Claims 1, 11, 21 and 23, both before and after amendment, used punctuation and formatting consistent with U.S. practice. Nevertheless, to expedite prosecution claims 1, 11, 21 and 23 have been amended, and the amendments are believed to obviate the Examiner's concerns.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Examiner contends a signal distribution unit "configured to selectively allocate" downlink data frames and uplink wireless signals was alleged not described in the specification. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed, and the Examiner is respectfully reminded that there is no *in hac verba* requirement. Nevertheless, to expedite prosecution the claims have been amended and care has been taken to use language corresponding to language in the specification. For example support for the language of the current claims, please see paragraphs 4, 8-11, 25, 30 and Figures 4a, 4b, 7 and 8. If the Examiner continues to have concerns under Section 112, a telephone conference with the Examiner is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 5-7, 9, 11, 15-17, 19 and 21-24 under 35 USC Section 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,132,306 by Trompower. The Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, 8, 12, 13 and 18 under 35 USC Section 103(a) as obvious over Trompower in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0032031 by Ogino, et al. The Examiner rejected claims 4 and 14 under 35 USC Section 103(a) as obvious over Trompower in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0174666 by Wallace, et al. The Examiner rejected claims 10 and 20 under 35 USC Section 103(a) as obvious over Trompower in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0014494 by Hellhake, et al. The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

In the present disclosure, it is proposed a method which allows for adopting as low as possible configured channel processing resources, and at the same time, is able to avoid

call loss caused by inadequate resources. As shown in Figure 7, “the downlink data frames from BSC/RNC 73 are forwarded to remote end BTS 72 by local BTS 71, are used by remote end BTS 72 to generate a part or all of downlink physic channels of a designated cell and to form baseband or intermediate frequency digital signals, which are transmitted to local BTS 71 via the wideband link between local BTS 71 and remote end BTS 72, and to form down link wireless signals of the cell in local BTS 71, which are sent out through antenna 74; in the uplink direction, uplink wireless signals of a designated cell which are received by antenna 74 are routed to remote end BTS 72 via the signal distribution unit of local BTS 71 and the wideband link, undergoes the baseband processing by remote end BTS 72 to form uplink data frames, which are returned to local BTS 71 by remote end BTS 72 via the wideband link, and finally are transferred to BSC/RNC 73 by local BTS 71.”

In the present disclosure, downlink data frames or uplink wireless signals are sent to a remote base station 72 by the local base station 71 for processing, and the processed downlink data frames or uplink wireless signals are returned to the local base station 71, for transmission via antenna 74 to the user terminal or for transmission to BSC/RNC 73, respectively.

All of the Examiner’s art-based rejections rely on Trompower. However, in Trompower, a chain of a base station and associated wireless base stations are used only to expand the communication range of the base station, each station on the chain only serves to relay the received packet to its destination for processing (see col. 37, line 28 to col. 40, line 13 of Reference 1). That is, none of the base station or the associated wireless base stations of Trompower will send a packet for processing in other base stations or the associated wireless base stations and then receive a returned processed packet therefrom for transmission to the packet’s destination.

As mentioned above, since Trompower aims at extending the effective cell coverage of the base station, the base station or the associated wireless base stations only serves to relay the received packet, the entire received packet is relayed. However, in the current disclosure, what is sent to other wireless base station can be only a part of the downlink data frames or uplink wireless signals. Therefore, Trompower does not teach or suggest the

“forwarding controller” of claim 1. It is further noted that wireless base stations 215 or 215’ of Trompower, which are used to expand the effective communication range of base station 210 or 210’ and not configured to connect to a backbone network, and thus cannot correspond to the various devices and base stations that as recited are configured to connect to a backbone network.

Turning to the language of the claims, claim 1, as amended, recites, “a signal distribution unit configured to distribute downlink data frames to the channel processing device of the wireless base station for processing and another wireless base station for processing, and to distribute uplink wireless signals associated with the subscriber unit received by the second communication device to the channel processing device of the wireless base station for processing and the another wireless base station for processing; and a third communication device configured to communicate with the another wireless base station, wherein the signal distribution unit comprises: a forwarding controller configured to transmit a part of the downlink data frames distributed to the another wireless base station for processing to the another wireless base station and receive corresponding processed downlink wireless signals from the another wireless base station, through the third communication device, and to transmit a part of the uplink wireless signals distributed to the another wireless base station for processing to the another wireless base station and receive corresponding processed uplink data frames from the another wireless base station, through the third communication device, wherein the second communication device is configured to transmit the received processed downlink wireless signals to the subscriber unit.” The Examiner points to Figures 10-12 as the recited signal distribution unit and does not appear to identify any device as corresponding to the recited forwarding controller. The Examiner suggests the third communication device is taught by the processor 1031 and the repeater transceiver 1012, pointing to generally to Columns 35-40 and Figures 9-14 of Trompower. These sections generally discuss the bases stations of Trompower communication with each other in a channel separate from channels used to communicate with mobile terminals. However, the claims do not merely recite that the base stations can communicate with each other through a separate channel or the use of repeater stations. As can be seen in Figures 13 and 14 of Trompower, if a packet received by the base station has an

address for a mobile terminal registered to the base station, it is processed and transmitted by the base station directly to the mobile terminal. See steps 1079 and 1081 in Figure 13 and the description thereof on Col. 37:28-62 and steps 1104 and 1106 in Figure 14 and the description thereof on Col. 39:19-37. Similarly, if a received packet has an address for a device on the backbone, it is processed and transmitted directly by the base station to the backbone. See steps 1089 and 1091 of Figure 13 and steps 1108 and 1110 of Figure 14. Thus, Trompower discloses only the use of separate channels for purposes of using daisy-chains to extend the reach of a base station.

In light of the above, claim 1 and the dependent claims thereof are novel and not obvious over Trompower, considered alone or in combination with the other cited references. Likewise, claims 11 and the dependent claims thereof, claim 21 and claim 22 are also patentable under 35 U.S.C 102(b) and 35 U.S.C 103(a).

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable.
Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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